



**U.S. Department of Justice**  
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*Western District of New York*

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# PRESS RELEASE

July 8, 2003

**RE: UNITED STATES v. GARY J. KNOWLES**

United States Attorney Michael A. Battle, announced today a one-count Indictment, charging Gary J. Knowles, age 32, of Charlotte, North Carolina, formerly of Elma, New York, with making and using a document containing a materially false statement in violation of Title 18, United States Code, Section 1001 carrying a maximum penalty of 5 years imprisonment, a fine of \$250,000.00, or both. It should be noted that the fact that a defendant has been charged with a crime . . . is merely an accusation and the defendant is presumed innocent until and unless proven guilty. **(Disciplinary Rule 7-107(B)(6))**.

Assistant U.S. Attorney Allison P. Gioia stated that the Indictment charges the defendant with presenting to the United States Department of Agriculture a USDA Form FmHA 1924-9 knowing that the form contained a materially false statement, in that the defendant certified that all the materials and labor employed in the performance of a construction contract relating to a new home construction in Elma, New York had been paid for in full, when the defendant knew that all the materials and labor had not been paid for in full.

The Indictment was the culmination of an investigation on the part of the United States Department of Agriculture, under the direction of Acting Special Agent in Charge Brian Haaser and the Federal Bureau of Investigation, under the direction of Peter Ahearn, Special Agent in Charge.

The evidence was presented to the Grand Jury by Allison P. Gioia, Assistant United States Attorney, who will handle the trial of the case.

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